

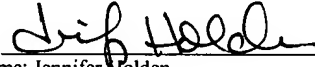


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MATSUKAWA et al. Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: 10/693,283 Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: October 24, 2003 Docket: 10873.1179USW1  
Title: MAGNETORESISTIVE ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 9, 2004.

By:   
Name: Jennifer Holden

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**23552**  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

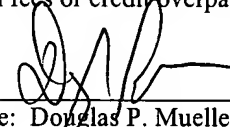
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Certified copy of a Japanese application, Serial No. 2001-192217, filed June 26, 2001, the right of priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 4 References listed, 3 are enclosed
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By:   
Name: Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No.: 30,300  
DPM/jh



10/693,283

PATENT

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By:

  
Name: Jennifer Holden

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of each foreign document listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

JP 2000-101164 corresponds with USP 2002/0167766.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: January 9, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/jh



FORM 1449\*

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

10873.1179USWI

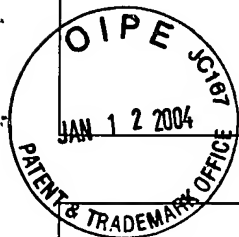
Application Number:

10/693,283

Applicant: MATSUKAWA et al.

Filing Date: October 24,  
2003

Group Art Unit: Unknown



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2002/0167766	11.2002	HAYASHI			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	9-23031	01.1997	Japan			Partial & Abstract	
	2000-101164	04.2000	Japan			See IDS	
	2000-91665	03.2000	Japan			Abstract	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.